

Physical Map of AFRICA



2nd largest continent

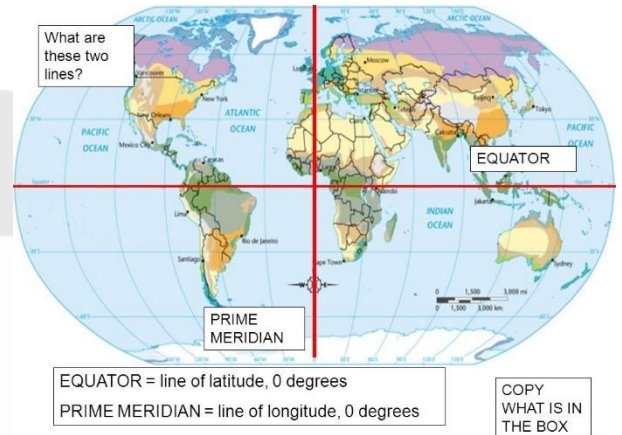
The **ONLY** continent which lies in all four hemispheres.

Divided by Equator in half, lies between 37°21' N to 34°51'15" S

Prime meridian also divides the continent, spread from 17°31'13"W to 51°27'52" E



- Africa is the only continent which is traversed by the equator, the Tropic of Capricorn and the Tropic of Cancer.
- It is the only continent where the 0° latitude meets the 0° longitudes. These lines meet at the Gulf of Guiana.
- Africa is sometimes nicknamed the “Mother Continent” as it’s the oldest inhabited continent on Earth.



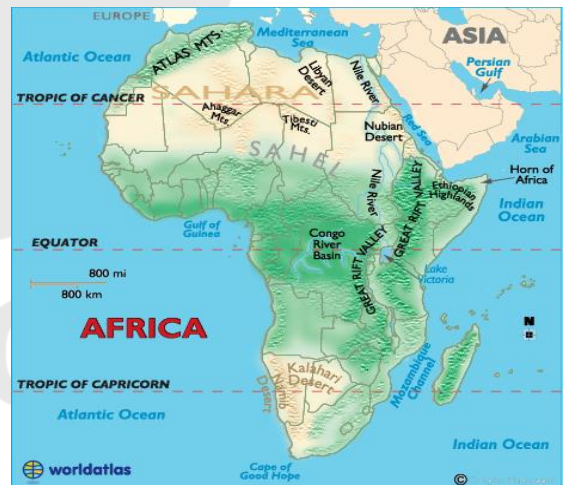
Surrounded by

North – Mediterranean Sea & Europe

North-East –Suez Canal, Red Sea, Gulf of Aden & Asia

East & SE – Indian Ocean

West – North & South Atlantic Ocean



AFRICA

- 6% of Earth’s surface; Nearly 20.3% of land area
- Resided by 14% of Earth’s population.
- Africa is called as the “Dark Continent’ because the greater part of its vast interior remained little known to the outside world until the last century.
- Surrounded by multiple small islands. Except Madagascar, fourth largest island on Earth, with an area of nearly 5,87,041 km².
- Madagascar lies in Indian Ocean, off the S.E. coast of Africa, separated from it by Mozambique channel

54 sovereign states

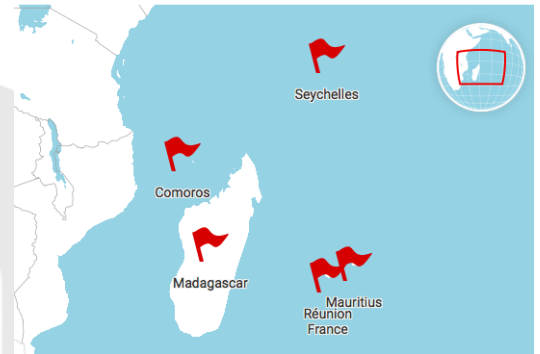
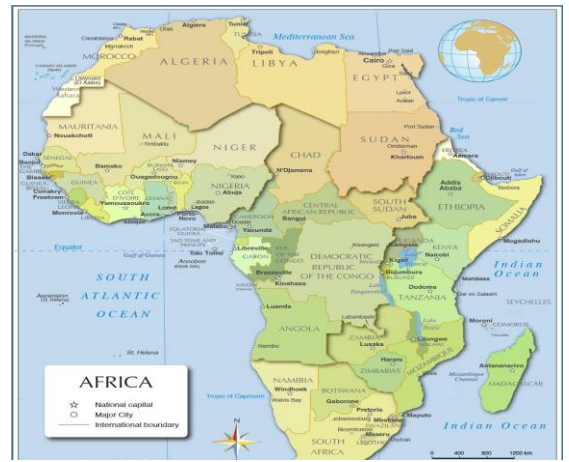
Largest: Algeria

7% of the continent

Smallest: Seychelles (451 km²)

Most Populous: Nigeria almost 14% of Africa's population

- Islands:** Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles (Indian Ocean) the Sao Tome and Malabo islands (the Atlantic Ocean)



5 Largest Islands

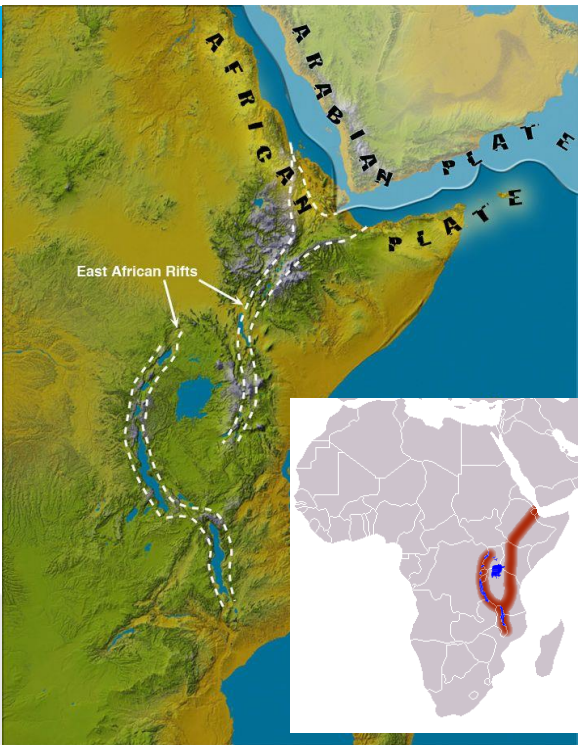
- Greenland** – autonomous territory; part of Denmark – N. Atlantic Ocean, geographically N. America, Politically & Culturally Europe.
- New Guinea** – Oceania - West Pacific Ocean
- Borneo** – Asia - West Pacific Ocean
- Madagascar** – Africa – Indian Ocean
- Baffin Island** – N. America – N. Atlantic Ocean



AFRICA Tectonic Plates

- Africa's land mass is made up of a simple tectonic plate
- Some geographers separate the Rift Valley system from the rest of the continent

The Rift Valley begins from the Red Sea and extends through the Ethiopian highlands to the Lake Victorian region where it subdivides into an east and west segments and continues southward through Lake Malawi to Mozambique.



AFRICA

- The continent is made up of very old crystalline, metamorphic, and sedimentary rocks of great hardness (collectively known as 'basement complex').
- **The Plateau:** Ethiopian Plateau, Tibesti Plateau, and the Abyssinia Plateau



Horn of Africa

- It is also called the horn of Africa which extends several hundred kilometers into the Arabian Sea and lies along the southern side of the Gulf of Aden. It contains countries such as Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Somalia.



African Deserts

- Sahara
- Kalahari
- Namib



Sahara Desert

- **3rd largest; Largest hot desert in world**
- Area: 92,00,000 km²
- Location: Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Chad, Sudan, Eritrea, Egypt, Libya, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia
- It ranges in elevation from 100 ft. below sea level, to peaks in the Ahaggar and Tibesti mountains that exceed 11,000 ft.
- Highest peak in Sahara is **Emi Koussi** 3,415 m (11,204 ft), in Tibesti range of northern Chad.
- Tuareg tribes



Kalahari Desert

- Kalahari means great thirst
- Location: Botswana, Namibia and South Africa
- Land of famous **San people (hunters)**
- Famous for **diamond mining**
- River: Okavango (Orange river)
- Bushmen tribe (the oldest surviving tribal group of Africa)
- It is home to some of the world's most endangered species of large mammal, such as the cheetah, ostrich, white rhinoceros, black rhinoceros, African wild dog and lion.



Nubian Desert

- The Nubian Desert is the eastern region of the Sahara desert, between the Nile and the Red Sea. There is virtually no rainfall here, and there are no oases. It is in Egypt



Namib Desert

- One of the oldest deserts in world
- Coastal desert in southern Africa
- Stretches for more than 2,000 km along the Atlantic coasts of Angola, Namibia and South Africa
- The high sand dunes of the Namib Desert and the point where the desert meets the sea are the key attractions of this UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Namib-Naukluft National Park present here



Sahel

- Narrow band of semi-arid land
- Forms a transition zone between the Sahara to the north and Sudanian savannas to the south.
- Sahel suffers from desertification and drought

The Sahel spans 5,900 km from the Atlantic Ocean in the west to the Red Sea in the east

The Sahel region



African Savannas

- Covers 40 % of Africa
- Also known as Tropical grasslands
- Rolling grassland of shrubs and isolated trees
- Found between either sides of equator



Tropical Rain Forest

- Occurs in regions where high temperatures are combined with heavy precipitation
- 80 % of Africa's rain forest is concentrated in central Africa
- Extends along western coast, Congo (Zaire) basin, and on the island of Madagascar
- Called - Jewels of earth, World's largest pharmacy
- World's highest temperature in Al Azzyiyah in Lybia has recorded at 58° C
- The equatorial forests which are found on both sides of the equator receive high temperatures and daily rainfall.
- In this area, clouds form around noon and heavy rains occur every evening.
- The types of vegetation found in the African continent are the equatorial forests, desert vegetation, Savanna grasslands, Mediterranean vegetation, and temperate grasslands
- The trees found in the equatorial forests are mahogany, ironwood, rosewood, oil palm, and rubber.



African Rivers

5 longest rivers in Africa

Nile
Congo (Zaire)
Niger
Zambezi
Orange



Nile River

- Longest river in the world (flows north)
- about (6,693 km) in length
- It starts from many streams in the equatorial rainforest of the Lake Victoria and Ruwenzori Mountain (the mountains of the moon) region.
- From Lake Albert, it flows as the White Nile.
- At Khartoum, it is joined by the Blue Nile which starts from Lake Tana on the Ethiopian Highlands.
- The Nile flows from 3,000 kilometers through the dry Sahara Desert of Egypt and enters the Mediterranean Sea.
- Egypt is called the gift of the Nile because without the river it would have been a desert.
- Cotton cultivation,
- Petroleum at mouth, navigable, irrigation
- Aswan dam, lake Naseer
- Port Said and Alexandria at the mouth
- Cairo, Giza, Khartoum cities are on River Nile



Congo River

- The second longest river in Africa; one of the deepest in world
- Crosses equator twice
- It starts from the south-west of Lake Tanganyika and flows into the Atlantic Ocean.
- The Zaire basin is one of the wettest regions of the Earth and is covered with dense impenetrable jungle.
- Boyoma waterfall
- Pygmy tribes
- Petroleum reserve at the mouth



River Zambezi

- River Zambezi flows into the Indian Ocean.
- The famous Victoria Falls at the head of a long gorge is on this river.



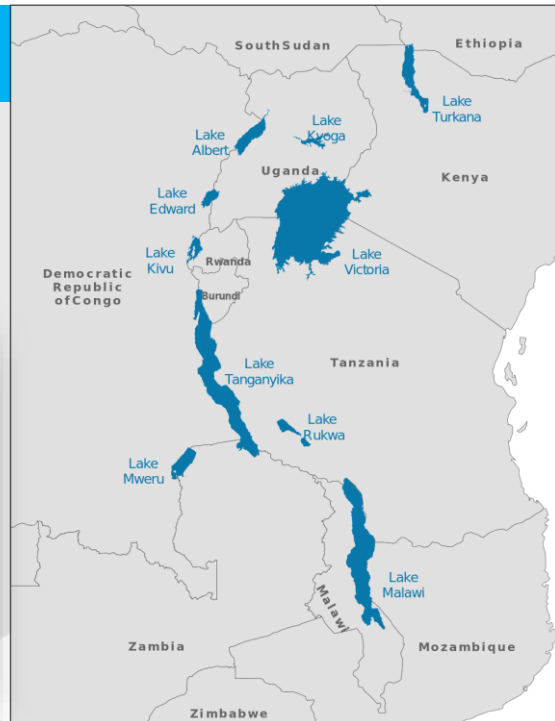
River Limpopo

- River Limpopo also flows into the Indian Oceans, which crosses the Tropic of Capricorn twice.



African Great Lakes

1. Lake Victoria,
2. Lake Tanganyika,
3. Lake Malawi,
4. Lake Turkana,
5. Lake Albert,
6. Lake Kivu, and
7. Lake Edward



African Great Lakes

- **Lake Victoria** - Lake Victoria is the second-largest freshwater lake in the world. It is the largest lake in Africa. It is situated on the block mountain between the two branches of the Great Rift Valley. The Equator passes through it. It is the source of the white Nile.
- **Lake Tanganyika** - world's longest freshwater lake, second largest by volume & second deepest lake after Lake Baikal in Siberia
- **Lake Tana** is on the Ethiopian Plateau. It is the source of the Blue Nile.
- **Lake Chad** at the southern edge in the Sahara Desert is in a region of inland drainage. Streams start from the surrounding hills and flow into this lake instead of the sea. River Charl is the largest river in this area.
- **Lake Nasser** is on the river Nile. It is a man-made lake located between Egypt and Sudan
- **Lake Kariba** is situated in the southernmost part of Africa a Zambezi river. It is one of the biggest looks man-made like and it is the largest producer of hydroelectricity in Africa.
- **Lake Assal** is situated in Djibouti and the lowest point in Africa

Important Dams and Waterfalls

Dam/Falls	River	Country
Aswan Dam	Nile	Egypt
Kariba Dam	Zambezi	Zimbabwe and Zambia
Kainji Dam	Niger	Nigeria
Victoria Fall	Zambezi	Zambia- Zimbabwe
Boyoma Fall	Zaire	Democratic

Ethnic groups and language

- There are 3000 distinct ethnic groups, 2000 languages.
- Zulu, South Africa.
- Karo, Ethiopia.
- Yoruba, Nigeria.
- San Bushmen, Kenya
- Samburu, Kenya
- Maasai, Kenya, and Tanzania.



Important Straits

Name	Separates	Connects
Strait of Gibraltar	Europe from Africa	Mediterranean Sea with Atlantic Ocean.
Strait of Bab-el-Mandeb	Djibouti (Africa) from Yemen (Asia)	Red Sea with Gulf of Aden.
Ivory Coast	Ivory Coast	
Gold Coast	Ghana	



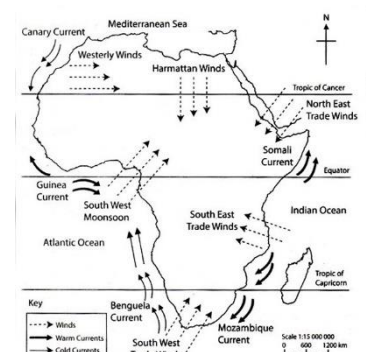
Minerals

- Diamonds
 - Gold
 - Uranium, Platinum
 - Petroleum
 - Coal
 - Iron
- World's major gold reserves are found in the African continent.
 - South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Central African Republic, and Ghana are leading producers of gold.
 - Diamond mines are found in Botswana, Zaire, and South Africa.
 - Africa is the leading exporter of diamonds.
 - Minerals like copper, uranium, and manganese are also found in various parts of Africa.



Hot and Cold Current

- The Mozambique Current is an ocean current in the Indian Ocean, usually defined as warm surface waters flowing south along the African east coast in the Mozambique Channel, between Mozambique and the island of Madagascar.
- The Benguela Current is a cold, wide current that flows northwards along the west coast of southern Africa



Other Important Points

- The highest peak of Atlas Mountains is **Mt. Toubkal** (4,167 m)
- The Ruwenzori (Rwenzori) Range—sometimes called the **Mountains of the Moon**
- Mt. Kiimanjaro and Mt. Kenya is the highest mountain peak of Africa. These two peaks are volcanic mountains.
- Time Zone: There are six time zones and thirteen standard time zone
- In Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia cattle and sheep rearing are practised especially the Merino sheep are reared for its quality wool.
- Victoria is the largest lake in Africa. The Equator passes through it.



Parcham Classes

Questions

Que:1 Nubian Desert is the eastern region of the Sahara desert, lies between which two water bodies?

- (a) Nile and Mediterranean Sea
- (b) Senegal and Atlantic Ocean
- (c) Nile and the Red Sea
- (d) Congo and Atlantic Sea

Que 2: Lake Nasser is on the river

- (a) Nile
- (b) Congo
- (c) Zambezi
- (d) Orange

Que 3: Sudan is an example of which of the following types of climates?

- (a) Tropical Marine
- (b) Tropical Continental
- (c) Tropical Monsoon
- (d) Tundra

Que 4: How many time zones are present in Africa?

- (a) Four
- (b) Five
- (c) Six
- (d) Seven

Que 5: Which of the following African river crosses the equator twice during its course

- (a) Congo
- (b) Nile
- (c) Orange
- (d) Niger

Question	Answer
1	c
2	a
3	b
4	c
5	a



Parcham Classes